

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

determining whether a first parental grade code is included with a video signal;

generating a second parental code when the first parental grade code is not included with the video signal,

~~wherein the second parental code corresponds to one of a plurality of parental levels selected by a user for the video signal; generating information that indicates the generation of the second parental code; and blocking viewing of an entire program corresponding to the video signal based on the second parental code;~~

storing the second parental code wherein the second parental grade code is recorded in a navigation area of a disc from which the video signal is received, the second parental code corresponding to a first user-selected parental level selected from a plurality of parental levels; and wherein

blocking viewing of the an entire program corresponding to the video signal is blocked based on detection of the second parental code in the navigation area of the disc, said method further comprising:

generating an on-screen display (OSD) menu listing the parental levels,

receiving a second user-selected parental level based on a selection of one of the parental levels in the OSD menu, the second user-selected parental level being different from the first user-selected parental level, and

changing the first user-selected parental level to the second user-selected parental level on the disc, said changing including storing a code corresponding to the second user-

selected parental level in the navigation area of the disc to be used in place of the first user-selected parental level previously stored in the navigation area of the disc.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first parental code is information received and associated with the video signal, and wherein the video signal is received from an external source.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first parental code is information recorded in a memory of a recordable medium or an optical disc player.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second parental code is generated as a default value.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the default value is responsive to one of a source of the video signal, a channel of the video signal, an actor or a title.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second parental code is generated as a value set by the user.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second parental codes are generated by a unit of a video program, a recording medium or a unit of a device producing the video program.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the disc includes a plurality of video programs.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein an optical disc player for reproducing the disc includes a single parental code level.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information is time information indicating when the second parental code is generated.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
generating an on-screen display (OSD) menu including a number of playback control options;
displaying a message ~~including the information~~ when a parental control option is selected from the menu, wherein the ~~information includes the~~ plurality of parental levels are displayed in selectable form when the parental control option is selected; and
receiving a signal from ~~[[a]]~~ the user selecting one of the parental levels corresponding to the second parental code.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the displaying a message comprises one of displaying the message for a predetermined time before a corresponding video program plays back or displaying the message until acknowledged by appropriate user action.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the second parental code is recorded in ~~recording is performed on~~ at least one of a memory provided in a device or a mobile recording medium.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the disc includes:

a first memory area to store a video signal,

a second memory area including the navigation area to store the second or third parental code for ~~controlling a parental~~ blocking viewing of the entire program corresponding to the video signal, wherein the parental code is configured to be changed ~~renewed~~ by a command, and

a third memory area to store status information indicating the renewal of the parental code.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A recording medium, comprising:

a first memory area configured to store a video signal;

a second memory area configured to store a first parental code that controls viewing access to a video program in the video signal, wherein the first parental code is one of a user-selected or default code configured to be updated and recorded in the second memory area with another user-selected code by a command; and

a third memory area configured to store status information indicating the renewal of the first parental code recorded in the second memory area, wherein use of the first parental code is changed to a second parental code stored in the second memory area, the second parental code being one of a plurality of user-selected parental levels different from a parental level indicated by the first parental code.

18-19 (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The recording medium of claim 17 [[18]], wherein the status information includes at least one of [[is]] time information, final change data, or an alert generated based on storage of ~~when the second parental code is generated in the second memory area.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The recording medium of claim 20 [[17]], wherein the status information is time stamp information when use of the first parental code is changed to the second parental code ~~renewed.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The recording medium of claim 17, wherein ~~the renewal use~~ of the first parental code is changed to the second parental code based on at least one of a reset operation performed by a user, ~~accessed~~ an access operation performed by the user, ~~or a verified~~ user entry ~~and operated by~~ performed based on an authorized password.

23. (Original) The recording medium of claim 22, wherein the status information is a history interval recording over a prescribed period of time or a prescribed number of accesses by the user.

24. (Previously Presented) The recording medium of claim 17, wherein the memory areas are provided on at least one of a memory provided in a device or a mobile recording medium.

25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for managing a parental control code, comprising:

- a detector that is capable of detecting a first parental grade code as a parental code corresponding to a video signal;
- a parental code generator that generates a second parental code as the parental code when the first parental grade code is not provided with a video signal, and
- a memory that stores status information indicating generation of the second parental code, wherein:
 - the second parental code corresponds to one of a plurality of parental levels selected by a user for the video signal,
 - the second parental grade code is ~~recorded~~ stored in a navigation area of a disc from which the video signal is received, and
 - detection of the second parental code in the navigation area of the disc is used as a basis for blocking viewing of an entire program corresponding to the video signal, said apparatus further comprising:
 - an on-screen display (OSD) generator to generate a menu of the parental levels,
 - wherein the parental code generator generates a third parental grade code selected by a user corresponding to one of the parental levels listed in the menu, the third parental grade code indicating a parental level different from a parental level indicated by the second parental grade code, and wherein a controller changes the second parental grade code to the third parental grade code, the change including storing the third parental grade code in the navigation area of the disc to be used in place of the second parental grade code previously stored in the navigation area of the disc.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the second parental code is one of generated as a default value and generated as value set by a user.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising:
~~a controller; an on-screen generator; and~~ an optical pickup for inputting and outputting data for a loaded recording medium.

28-31 (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first parental grade code is a code that is pre-recorded on the disc.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second parental grade code is recorded in a section corresponding to a real-time recording video manager (RTR_VMG) on the disc.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the second parental ~~grade~~ code is recorded in a section corresponding to a parental manager information table (PTL_MAIT) on the disc.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the disc includes a plurality of titles and wherein second parental codes are generated and recorded in the navigation area of the disc when no corresponding first parental codes are detected from the disc for the titles.